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26th Season of Prairie Yard and Garden Continues on Pioneer Public Television

Summary: The 26th season of Prairie Yard and Garden continues Thursday, March 7.

(February 26, 2013)-The 26th season of Prairie Yard and Garden (PY&G) continues on Thursday, March 7. Larry Zilliox, former University of Minnesota Extension educator from Alexandria, Minnesota, hosts the popular 30-minute program—one of Minnesota's top resources for gardening information. PY&G airs Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. on Pioneer Public Television.

Each season, PY&G travels the state to confer with researchers, gardening and nursery professionals, educators, and backyard gardeners about their expertise in horticulture, landscaping, and other gardening topics. In association with Pioneer Public Television, the series is produced by Roger Boleman, director, and Michael Cihak, assistant director of marketing communication and design, of Instructional and Media Technologies at the University of Minnesota, Morris. Cihak also serves as production coordinator, editor, and videographer.

The longevity and success of the program characterizes a unique alliance between the University of Minnesota, Morris and Pioneer Public Television, KWCM Appleton. Pioneer Public Television, a Public Broadcasting System (PBS) affiliate, serves more than 375,000 households across Minnesota, South Dakota, and Iowa.

On Thursday, March 7, Zilliox meets with Lee and Kris Grinager of New London. The two have designed and developed several gardens within their small city lot, which includes a water feature and a memory garden.

On Thursday, March 14, Zilliox visits the University of Minnesota, Morris's student-grown Native American Garden. This garden holds traditional vegetables that are harvested and preserved for use during a fall community meal.

On Thursday, March 21, Pat Sotak, landscape gardener at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, discusses with Zilliox the varieties of mums and dahlias that thrive in Minnesota. These flowers can provide bold color during the fall months.

On Thursday, March 28, Doug and Robin Trott of Prairie Garden Farm near Starbuck discuss with Zilliox the process of growing flowers for the cut-flower industry. The demand for locally produced cut flowers has grown dramatically in recent years.

On Thursday, April 4, Zilliox talks with Dave Bedford, apple breeder with the University of Minnesota Horticulture Research Center, about the history of apple development in Minnesota. Apples have a heralded history in the state, and the University has spent well over a century breeding them for the northern climate.

On Thursday, April 11, Zilliox travels just south of Willmar to Blomkest and takes a garden tour of Bill and Helene Dykstra's rural home. The Dykstras have developed a series of impressive gardens they share with their daughter and guests.

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